Dissertatio de Variolis:

OR, A

DISCOURSE

Concerning the

SMALL-POX.

WITH A

Persuasive for INOCULATION.

By *RICHARD FRANKLIN*,
a Lover of Mankind, and Promoter of their Felicity.

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LONDON:
Printed in the Year MDCCXXII.

A DISCOURSE

Concerning

SWIMMING

Proving the Practicableness and Safety of

By BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
a Native of Boston, and Member of
many Philosophical Societies.

LONDON:

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Dissertatio de Variolis:

OR, A

DISCOURSE

Concerning the

SMALL-POX.

THE Confluent Small-Pox, I take it, is the most loathsome Disease that ordinarily afflicts Mankind, and the most difficult for Persons to wade through with Safety; this comes to pass, if I think rightly, from the various Changes and Alterations that are made in the Fever that attends it, producing different Phænomena, and Symptoms, and requiring different Regimens in the Cure thereof: *Hinc illæ Lachrymæ*; the Neglect of which Observation, perhaps is the grand Reason of so universal an Unsuccessfulness in Practice.

Hence the learned Dr. *Harris* may well ſay; *Variolæ confluentes inter nobiles æque ac vulgares diram ſtragem apud nos ediderunt, viz.* the Confluent Small-Pox have of late made a curſed Havock among our Noblemen as well as common People: For, as has been hinted in my *Addreſs*, I queſtion not but ſooner or later, it will be found that all Fevers or acute Diſeaſes whatſoever, may be reduc'd to or rang'd under four Claſſes, which, when rightly underſtood, their Cure will be rendred more certain and leſs expenſive to the Sick, *viz. Febris* Συνεχης *ſimplex, colliquativa vel ſynochus ſpuria, inflammatoria, & malignans*; ſo am very certain from a long and conſtant Experience, that tho' the Small-Pox is to be rank'd among the inflammatory Kind, yet ſometimes the venemous Particles do ſo affect the Brain at its firſt Seizure, that the whole Oeconomy of the Spirits are overturn'd, ſo that the Peſt it ſelf is not more certainly fatal, and ſuch die Απυρετω without a Fever.

But if by the Help of Nature or a skilful Phyſician, the Scene is alter'd, ſo that a Fever is enkindled, then the variolous Poiſon is ſometimes wholly, and ſometimes but partly ſecern'd from the Blood, and expell'd to the Circumference, according to the Perfection or Imperfection of which Criſis, either a remitting, colliquaſive, inflammatory or malignant Fever diſplays it ſelf through every Stage thereof, and according to which the Danger is more or leſs in the Eruption, Maturation

turation and Declenſion; *Dolet me quidem in hac diſſertatione a ſententiis magnorum eruditorum hominum diſcrepaſſe, ſed non rixandi vel certandi gratiâ, verum reluctanti animo factus eſt: nam ut nunquam delector in reprehendendo alienos errores, neque id nunc facio, niſi ſolius veritatis ſtudio, in causâ graviſſimâ incitatus.* It grieves me indeed in this Diſſertation, to diſſent from the Opinions of ſo many great and learned Men, (as Dr. *Sydenham*, *Friend*, *Mead*, *Cave*, *Frewin*, &c. who all account it a putrid Fever only that's call'd the ſecondary one, and that ſeizeth about the Ninth, Tenth or Eleventh Day). But 'tis not done for the ſake of Contention or Strife, or a deſire of Vain-Glory, but with a reluctant Mind; for I never delighted in reprehending the Miſtakes of others, nor ſhould now do it, was I not excited in a Cauſe of ſo great Concern, and in the Purſuit of Truth alone. But if this has been one and perhaps the chief Reaſon, why ſo many of the beſt ſort have failed under the Hands of the moſt Learned; how can it be expected it ſhould be otherwiſe among the Vulgar, when treated by ignorant Nurſes, who don't pretend to interfere with Phyſicians in other Diſeaſes, where are no ſuch ſudden Changes and Alterations, and therefore can't be attended with a Thouſandth Part of the Danger; and yet in this the moſt difficult of all, they pretend to know (and moſt People are infatuated to believe ſo) more than the ableſt and

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moſt ſagacious whatſoever. It muſt be acknowledg'd that the conſtant Diligence and Attendance of a good prudent Nurſe is abſolutely neceſſary, and of uſe to help through the Difficulties the Sick have to ſtruggle with, but eſpecially towards the latter End, when the ſalival Glands ceaſe from performing their Office, or rather when the Juices by the Fever are rendred ſo viſcid that they cannot without Aſſiſtance be expectorated. But for them to offer to give Things in ſo critical a Juncture, (when it requires ſo different a Method as Bleeding, Purging, Bliſtering, *&c.* according to the Nature of the then Fever that moleſts, and which often puzzles and ſhocks the greateſt Artiſt) is very daring, and ought by no means to be ſuffer'd by the Relations concern'd, leſt by ſo doing ſuch become acceſſary to their Guilt.

Since then the Confluent Small-Pox hath been ſo fatal, and now appearing again and threatning to viſit us ſeverely this Summer, it having already killed ſeveral among us, I take this Opportunity to do theſe two Things.

Firſt, I hereby offer to give my Attendance and Medicines in this worſt of Diſeaſes for Thirty Shillings, *viz.* Ten Shillings at firſt, and the other when well, and will have nothing more than the Ten Shillings where any die under my Care. The great Succeſs I have had all round the Country in curing ſuch as have been given over by every Body that

ſaw

saw them, and especially two Persons that had Purple Spots all over, and bloody Urine; one the Daughter of Mr. *Faithorne*, the Basket-Maker, now living in Town; (though Dr. *Cade* confesseth, as well as others, that they never saw one Person in the Small-Pox in those Circumstances supervive the Sixteenth Day; his Words are, *Sed ut vera fateor, ne unum quidem variolis affectum, cui cruenta urina fluxerit diem decimum sextum ab eruptione supervixisse*) induceth me hereto; and that it may appear obvious to every Body that I am as capable as any of my Neighbours to do Service to Mankind in the Station I act in; since it cannot but be allowed, that he that understands the Small-Pox well, I mean the Confluent sort, (for as for the distinct, Nature does all there, and have no need of Assistance, though I have seen some kill'd in these by the Over-officiousness of those concern'd) cannot be ignorant, yea, must be most capable of curing all other acute Diseases whatsoever.

And that I may confirm my Notion the better concerning the different Method to be used, agreeable to the different Phænomena of the Fever, I shall here give an Instance under each Head or Classis.

Mr. *Fleet*, a Butcher, that us'd this Market, being surpriz'd at the Sight of one that newly had the Small-Pox, was taken after the Manner that all are, where the Spirits are almost totally eclips'd, *viz.* the vital

Flame

Flame was almoſt extinguiſh'd, the Pulſe ſwift, quick and weak, the Urine pale, and a Chillneſs and Horrour invaded the whole Machine; in ſhort, the Spirits were ſo enervated or kill'd, that they could not be brought to expand themſelves by all that could be done by Art, but he lay like one aſtoniſh'd, without a Fever, or any violent Symptom, and died about the Fourth Day.

Mr. *Griſt*, my Neighbour, being taken with a lancing ſpaſmodical fixed Pain in his Back, that he could not ſit upright, nor lie ſtill a Minute, the Third Day ſent for me; I immediately ſaw the Pain was the *Præ-nuncia*, or Fore-runner of the Small-Pox, and that in 24 Hours he would be red all over, like a St. *Anthony*'s Fire, would have purple Spots, and bloody Urine, and certainly die if not preſently reliev'd, and therefore adviſ'd immediately to ſend for Dr. *Smith*, which accordingly was done, who alſo pronounc'd him a dead Man; upon which I propos'd, (that ſince it was both our Opinions, that it was impoſſible he could ſurvive long) with the Great *Hyppocrates*, *ut melius eſt anceps remedium experiri quam nullum*, that it was better to try a doubtful Remedy rather than none; and that ſince the Blood had not Room to circulate in the Veſſels, the moſt proper Way was to educe a large Quantity from him, and afterwards to apply Bliſters to ſtimulate the Spirits to raiſe a Fever, and continue the Circulation, and conſequently expel

pel the variolous Poiſon. He agreed it was the moſt rational Method that could be taken, but would not come into it, leſt People ſhould ſay we had kill'd him; I anſwer'd, it concern'd me moſt to have reſpect to my Reputation, who had nothing elſe to live by, (for as for himſelf he was got above that) and yet if he would preſcribe it, I would ſet my Hand to the ſame; but that not prevailing, nothing was done, but a Cordial to make Death more eaſy; and the poor Gentleman, the next Day, was full of Purple Spots, made bloody Urine, and vomiting up above two Quarts of Blood, expired in the Action.

I give this Account, and the foregoing, on purpoſe to apprize People of the Nature or different Degrees of the Venom of the Small Pox, or rather the different Effects that it produceth on the Spirits and Blood: In the former, the Spirits were ſtruck ſo dead, that they could not continue any Heat in the Blood, their Influx from the Cerebellum, or After-brain, thro' the *par vagum*, the wandring or eighth Pair of Nerves into the Heart, were ſo ſmall, that the Motion of that Muſcle, ſo neceſſary for the Continuance of Life, was ſcarce to be felt, and of Courſe the Circulation of the Blood muſt ſoon be ſtopt; but in this the Spirits had a greater Influx, enough to give ſuch a Motion to the Heart, as to ſend the Blood thro' the Arteries, and ſo beget a greater Heat in it, but not enough

to impel it clean thro' the muſculous Fibres, that it might flow back again, or be abſorp'd by the Veins; and therefore it made a Rupture through the Capillaries, and appear'd in Purple Spots, as well as by bloody Urine: And there is no Way to prevent this but by ſending the firſt Moment they are taken, to a Phyſician of good Judgment; for if ever that Adage, *principiis obſta*, be neceſſary, 'tis abſolutely ſo here: or as Dr. *Harris de Peſte* hath it; *Principium in omnibus febribus, qualeſcunq; fuerint, ſive continentes, intermittentes, inflammatorie dictæ, & malignæ, credite mihi, eſt maximi momenti*, viz. the Beginning in all Fevers of what ſort ſoever, whether they be call'd remitting, intermitting, inflammatory, or malignant, if I may be credited, is of the greateſt Moment with reſpect to Life, or Death; and afterwards, to make this the more obſerv'd, quotes a *Greek Aphoriſm* out of *Hyppocrates*, which I will not tranſcribe, *Ne ſutor ultra crepidam*, leſt he that is ſaid not to be capable of writing true *Engliſh*, and then to be ſure not the late *Addreſs*, ſhould be thought to have the Aſſiſtance of others in this alſo.

Mrs. *Gregory* of *Fareham*, being ill with the Confluent Small-Pox, the 2d Day after the Eruption, got out of Bed for a Knife, with which ſhe endeavoured to cut her Throat, the Skin was raz'd in two Places, but without any Effuſion of Blood: Upon which I was ſent for; ſhe was light-headed to the laſt

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Degree, and knew not what ſhe had done. In this Caſe the Spirits were not ſo oppreſs'd but were at Liberty to expand themſelves, and create an inflammatory Fever, and make a Separation of the variolous Poyſon, and exterminate the greateſt Part to the Skin; but there being yet ſome of the Particles left in the Blood, which not being eliminated by the ſalival Glands, or Urine, the two general Ways whereby the Defects of an imperfect Criſis is anſwer'd, theſe were again tranſlated to the Brain, and the Fever became malignant; however, by the Application of five Bliſters, and Alexipharmicks internally, it was chang'd from that into one of the remitting kind, and by a diligent Obſervation of every Alteration thro' every Stage afterwards, and different Applications according thereto, ſhe was recovered; tho' the Pox was as black as my Hat, and ſhe blind till the 21ſt Day of her Diſeaſe. Mr. *Row* was the Apothecary.

The Reverend Mr. *Pearſon*, of *Limington*, the Ninth Day of his Illneſs ſent for me; when I came in the Evening, they told me they were glad I was come, but hoped there was no great Occaſion of me, for that the Nurſes ſaid the worſt was over, the Pox being all turned in his Face, and he in a fine Way to do well; I made anſwer, I was very glad to hear ſo, but could I have thought it, I would not have taken ſuch Pains in ſo wet and bluſtering a Seaſon, being forc'd to

ride to *Southwick* out of my Way to see a Patient there: However, after a little Refreshment, I went to see the Gentleman, and found the very Reverse to all that had been told me; for the Pox in his Face, instead of being come to a due Maturity, were even with the Skin, and all over in a dry Scurf, the Face was subsided, nor did the Hands or Feet swell, neither had they any Corruption in them, but were more like Warts than Small-Pox; his Spittle was become so tough and viscid, that it could scarce be excreated, he had a *conatus mingendi*, tho' made but a spoonful at a Time, and his Pulse intermitted at every Stroke, and now and then had a *deliquium animi*; all which Symptoms plain enough demonstrated that Death was near at hand. I went out of the Chamber, and told the Persons concerned, the several Symtoms enumerated, and the Danger he was in, that they might satisfy themselves about it; and that if he had not present Relief, was not brought to spit freely, or make Water plentifully, his Face swell again, and the Pox there as well as Hands to have Corruption in them, he would be a dead Man in 24 Hours; who, upon feeling the Pulse, and considering the other Things related, and that several of their Neighbours had made their Exit, after the Nurses had pronounc'd them out of Danger, they were amaz'd that they should be so impos'd on, and beg'd me to do all that could be done for his Relief: I im-

mediately order'd five Blisters, and internal Medicines, and went to Bed. About Four in the Morning I was call'd upon, and told he was dying; but when I came to him found him asleep, and his Pulse mended, so that it did not intermit above once in ten Times, and that he had made above a Quart of Urine at twice. I ordered them to mind the Directions when he stir'd; in the mean time to let him alone. In the Day, about Nine of the Clock I found every Thing answer beyond Expectation; his Pulse was now almost free from Intermissions, he had made three Quarts of Urine, the Blisters rose well, and discharg'd a great Quantity of Serum; and yet notwithstanding all this, the Poyson began again to be excern'd by the salival Glands, the Pox rise in his Face, and became full of Corruption, and those in his Hands run so together, that they became rather Bags of Matter, and were the largest and fullest that ever I saw in my Life. The Gentleman every Day grew better and better, till they had compleated their Course, and he restor'd to his Health. In this, as well as the preceding Instance, the Spirits were not so oppressed by the variolous Miasms, but were capable of raising an inflammatory Fever, and making a Separation of the infectious Particles, and secerning the Remainder by the salival Glands and Urine, as appeared by the Efforts of both, tho' weak: Therefore those succedaneous Ways not succeeding or ejecting it fast enough,

enough, a continual or malignant Fever remain'd, that proceeded ſlowly, and ſo was not perceptible to the By-ſtanders, by which the Saliva was rendred more viſcid, and the Pox dried up into a Scurf before their Time, for want of a Supply of Juices to fill them, which occaſion'd all the aforeſaid Danger. I have mention'd theſe too, among many others to whom Bliſters were beneficial, on purpoſe to convince a certain Gentleman (if that be poſſible to be done) that they are ſometimes abſolutely neceſſary; who, about ſeven or eight Years ſince, when to a certain Perſon I advis'd them, diſſuaded from them, as never having known ſuch Practice in his Life.

Mrs. *Welch*, of *Limington*, being a fat corpulent Woman, and having the worſt ſort of Confluent Small-Pox, I was ſent for about the ninth Day of her Sickneſs; when I firſt came, ſhe had no bad Symptom, and ſpit plentifully, only had a remitting Fever, which diſplay'd it ſelf by the Exacerbation or Paroxiſm of Heat that infeſted every Evening; however, in two Days ſhe was taken with a Diarrhea after a violent rate, and conſequently a Ceſſation of Spitting, and *deliquium animi*, or Faintings; I was not at a loſs what to do at ſo critical a Time, and my Preſcriptions met with Succeſs, and carried her through this laſt and moſt dangerous Time of the Diſeaſe with a great deal of Eaſe and Safety. Now in this Caſe Nature

or the Animal Spirits were ſtrong and vigorous, and had done all that was poſſible to get rid of the Poiſon; but the Skin being the fulleſt I think every where that ever I ſaw, and not able to contain any more, the reſt was ejected by the ſalival Glands, till the Return of ſo great a Plenty of Corruption into the Blood begat a Colliquative Fever, which no ſooner was ſtop'd (not by binding Medicines, for that would have ſoon thrown it on the Brain, but by real Specificks,) but the Salivation was renewed, and continued till it was fit to purge her, whereby ſhe became free from Danger.

In the ſame Chamber there lay at the ſame Time, a Child in the Cradle, breathing very thick, ſhort and troubleſome; upon which I asked, what was the Matter with it? They told me it newly had the Small-Pox, but were almoſt all fallen off the Face, and like to do well; I bid them take it up, and found it had an inflammatory Fever on the Lungs, or a Peripneumonia, occaſion'd by the Return of the variolous Poiſon on that Part. I order'd Mr. *Ives* to bleed it preſently, and to ſupply it with Pectorals and Medicines, *pro re nata*, and ſav'd that Life, which in all probability could not have ſurviv'd, without bleeding, a Day longer.

Mrs. *Franklin*, in Town, aged above Sixty, had the Small-Pox this Spring; at the Eruption, there ſeemed to be a perfect Criſis or Deſpumation of the variolous Poiſon; notwith-

withſtanding which, when the Blood or Spirits became afreſh tainted from the corrupt Miaſms in its Circulation, an inflammatory Fever was raiſed that could not be vanquiſh'd without bleeding, purging, and ſeveral other Medicines appropriated to ſuch Caſes.

I ſhall mention one Caſe more, which will make all that has been ſaid appear the clearer, and that is Mrs. *Croucher*'s Daughter, in *Tichfield* Pariſh, Fifteen Years old, who very lately had the Confluent ſort, but the beſt that could be; for here all the Poiſon was perfectly deſpumated and ſent to the Skin, ſo that there was no ſpitting, no *conatus mingendi*, no Fever of any ſort from the Time of Eruption to their Decidation, but only a Heat attending the ripening the Puſtules, where nothing was requir'd but to attemperate that Heat during the Time of Maturation and Declenſion, and afterwards to carry off what Relicts might be left on the Blood and Bowels by Purging, *&c.*

The ſecond Thing I am to do, (and one would think after the conſtant Experience that moſt have had of the killing Nature and Poiſon of the Confluent Small-Pox, and with what Hazard thoſe mention'd have waded through it, there would be no Difficulty to do it) is to perſuade People to ſubmit to have their Children and Relations inoculated, and which I will undertake to do for a Guinea; whereby they will be prevented from running the Riſque of having the Confluent

ſort,

ſort, and infallibly ſave their Lives, their Features, and their Beauty.

This Practice indeed hath been but lately introduced into *England*; but there are ſeveral Perſons in this and the neighbouring Towns can atteſt, that I have talk'd for it ever ſince 1713, and have often declared, had my Son not had it, I would have made him the firſt Example in theſe Parts. The Rationality appear'd ſo plain and ſelf-evident, upon the firſt reading Dr. *Timonius*'s Letter, publiſh'd in *Latin* in the *Tranſactions of the Royal Society*, and being ſo agreeable to the Notions I had ever entertain'd about the Reception of infectious Miaſms, as will appear by the following Sentences taken thence, if compar'd with has been ſaid before, and in my late *Addreſs* concerning it, *viz. Spiritus ſtatim infici rationi conſentaneum eſt, tum quia in fontes ſpirituum, cor ſcilicet & cerebrum ſtatim ingreſſum aporriæ, tum ratione analogiſmi inter miaſmata & effluvia iſta & ipſoſque ſpiritus, cum utraque ſpirituoſæ aereæ texturæ ſint. Deducitur etiam cita & prava ſpirituum infectio a tot tantiſque nervoſi ſyſtematis ſymptomatibuſque quæ malas plerumque comitantur variolas & præcipue a convulſionibus epilepticis quæ infantibus accidunt ipſo momento, quo varioloſo inficiunt contagio multo antequam febris illos corripiat*; that is to ſay, it ſeems moſt conſentaneous to Reaſon, that the Spirits are preſently or primarily infected; for

that the infectious Miasms do presently make their virulent Ingress into the Fountain of the Spirits, to wit, the Brain and Heart; and also, because there is such an Agreement or Likeness between the one and the other, they being both of a spirituous aerial Texture: Likewise the quick and sudden Attack of the Spirits may be deduced from those many and only Symptoms of the *genius nervosum*, which commonly accompany the worst sort of Small Pox, and especially from those Convulsions, and Epileptick Fits, that happen to Infants that very Moment they are infected, even before there's any Fever appears upon them; that I thought next to the Discovery of the *Jesuits Bark*, this was the greatest Blessing that God had bestow'd on Mortals in this our degenerate, though very ingenious and inquisitive Age: Though 'tis not to be question'd there are those for self Ends that will oppose this Practice with all their Might, as well as others that have been displeased at the Certainty and Suddenness of the Cure of Agues by the Jesuits Bark. But by this we may try, as by a Touchstone, our Dispositions, and from thence judge whether we are good or ill Men, according to the Degree of our Joy or Grief, as oft as the Welfare of Mankind is promoted by some common Benefit, or the Blessing of God.

But to proceed; the great Reaſon why this Way of receiving the Small-Pox can never be fatal, when communicated to well-diſpos'd or qualify'd Subjects is, becauſe 'tis plain and obvious the Spirits this Way cannot be infected but in the leaſt Degree or Proportion, and at a great Diſtance from the Fountain-head, the Brain; conſequently the major Part will remain ſtrong and vigorous to make their Efforts againſt the Poiſon, and are able to expand themſelves ſo as to actuate the Blood to ſeparate the venomous Particles from it; for the Ferment of this Contagion is not ſpiritual and ſubtil as the Air, but humoral; and hence the Symptoms attending it are all light and eaſy, nothing like to the Inſults and Convulſions that attend it, when the whole Syſtem of the Nerves or Spirits are tainted by the common Way of Infection; for in Inciſion, the Blood only ferments ſo much and no more, as may cauſe a Separation of the pure from the impure, and as is enough to eliminate the Poiſon by Deſpumation; and the many Teſtimonies of its good Succeſs from *Turkey*, from *Boſton* in *New England*, and lately from many Parts at Home, is enough to prove the Innocency and Safety thereof.

From what hath been before ſaid, it will plainly appear why ſo many Children die in the Flux Pox, and how difficult it is for any to eſcape, *viz.* becauſe the Poiſon not

being wholly eliminated by the kingly Way, the Skin, and theſe not being capable of helping it off by Spitting, the Method that Nature takes as a Succedaneum to the other, the Spirits are ſo infected, and ſuch a Fever produc'd, according to the Nature of which they die preſently, or ſometimes live to the ninth, tenth or eleventh Day; and not being capable of taking Things to promote artificial Evacuations, a novel Notion perhaps to moſt Practitioners, they then commonly die. And if this be too true to be deny'd, that Death is unavoidable almoſt to Infants by the common Way of Infection; I think, with Submiſſion to better Judgments, no greater nor better Argument can be made uſe of, to perſwade People to have their Children and Relations inoculated, whereby they may have them all preſerv'd: For I am bold to ſay, not one can fail this Way, unleſs they are before under ſome imperceptible Diſeaſe, or have been infected with the worſt ſort, which in Time would have kill'd them; and if ſo, is it not better to try this doubtful Remedy (I call it ſo only in ſuch Circumſtances) rather than none, or rather than let them pine away, notwithſtanding all other Means that can be uſed. And ſuppoſing it to be the Lot of a Parent to loſe his Child, *&c.* why ſhould not ſuch ſatisfy themſelves in this, as having made uſe of the beſt Method that Di-

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vine Providence, whoſe Footſteps are always to be obſerv'd, hath beſtowed on Mortals for their Preſervation; and when, on the contrary, the Neglect of it, after once made known, cannot but be an aggravated Crime? And if I may be here admitted to allude to ſacred Things, who is there that will venture their Souls under the *Moſaical* Diſpenſation, full of troubleſome Rites and Ceremonies, when the Goſpel teaches us an eaſier and better Way of Salvation, by the Sufferings of God-man, or Faith in a crucify'd Jeſus; ſo who are there ſhould ſatisfy themſelves to wait till God brings the Infection the common Way, now he hath by his beneficent Goodneſs given the Knowledge of a more compendious, eaſy and almoſt infallible Preſervative? For my part, I profeſſedly think, to neglect it is to deſpiſe the Kindneſs, and be guilty of a Sin againſt the merciful Bounty of Heaven, and to lay a Foundation for unconſolable Reflection, on the Loſs of any Relation by the common Way of Infection afterwards.

I ſhall conclude all with a Paragraph out of an ingenious Writer on this Subject, ſuppoſing the Town infected where he is, he puts the Caſe thus; 'If I have not had the 'Small-Pox it is to be ſuppoſed there is in 'my Body what I'll call the Fuel of that 'Diſtemper, and there only wants the light-'ing of a Spark to ſet this Fuel on burn-

'ing;

'ing; The Air I breathe in is full of these 'Sparks, and I may expect every Breath 'I fetch to draw some of them in: If 'now it appears upon daily Experience, 'that by making an Incision and letting 'the Spark in that Way, the Fuel will 'burn with less Fierceness and consequent-'ly Danger, why mayn't I take it in that 'Way? Why must I needs stay till it 'comes in at my Mouth or Nostrils, or 'through some of the porous Parts of my 'Body? For my Part, I think the Law 'of Self-preservation, which is God's Law, 'requires me to take this Method of 'Safety, whereby the Disease is, through 'God's common Blessing, happily conver-'ted into a Remedy.

FINIS.